

Citizens assembly seeks input Dec. 5

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Area residents are invited to cast their opinions on provincial election voting Dec. 5. The Ontario Citizens Assembly for Electoral Reform will hold a public input session at Trent University. Meeting since the fall, the 104-member assembly's task is to recommend changes, if any, to the provincial electoral system.

Ann Thomas, Peterborough's assembly delegate, said the meeting is part of the organization's public consultation phase. "We're asking for public input into what they like and what they would like to see changed," Thomas told The Examiner.

The meeting is open to everyone and questions are encouraged. Anyone wanting to make a formal presentation must register with the assembly secretariat beforehand.

To contact the assembly call 1-866-317-3208, e-mail athomas@ontariocitizensassembly.ca or go online at www.citizensassembly.gov.on.ca.

Thomas, who recently attended meeting with the assembly in Toronto, said she has learned a lot about political systems. "We just completed a crash course in political science," Thomas said. "We had experts from around the world."

Thomas said she volunteered to work on a subcommittee of the assembly looking at women and minorities in politics. "I have three daughters and I feel I need to look after how they can best be represented," Thomas said.

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